



BOILER SAFETY INTERPRETATION/TECHNICAL LETTER  
BSI04

MEMORANDUM

TO: ALL INSPECTION AGENCIES & SUPERVISORS

FROM: Fred P. Barton, Director/Chief Inspector  
Boiler Safety Compliance Program

SUBJECT: Back to Basics II  
Meeting of April 19, 2001

DATE: April 30, 2001

Most inspection companies were represented at our second annual meeting. It was an opportunity to bring everyone up to date on our plans for the redesigned DOLI Website and electronic reporting.

In addition, various issues involving compliance with Virginia rules or laws were discussed to a more common understanding. There were two (2) issues that needed to be clarified based on the meeting and a third issue to address as we ran out of time at the meeting.

Firstly, it was decided by the majority of Inspectors that the exemption [Section 40.1-51.8 (7)] for vessels containing water under pressure is intended to refer to the maximum allowable working pressure (MAWP) and not the safety valve setting. It was the consensus that any pressure vessel containing potable or industrial water in Virginia over 300 psi MAWP should be registered and inspected. Note that based on similar wording in the exemption for hydro pneumatic tank in Section 40.1-51.8 (8) any hydro pneumatic tank over 300 psi MAWP or 120 gallons should also be registered and inspected. There is no change in the meaning of pressure for air compressor tanks. Air compressor tanks with the safety valve setting of 175 psi or eight cubic feet (60 gallons) should be registered and inspected.

Secondly, any unsafe or hazardous condition that will take longer than five (5) days to resolve may be reported by faxing the report (telephone (804) 371-2324). Any Inspection Reports completed to follow-up on resolution of previously reported non-conformances should be sent in the normal snail mail manner. For extenuating circumstances where it is necessary to report to the Chief Inspector any resolutions by fax, be sure to reference the BD number of the citation. In every case mail the

Reinspection Report as that report will be used to issue a Certificate of Inspection, not the fax report.

Thirdly, various Chief Inspectors in surrounding jurisdictions have grown concerned about the maximum temperature ratings of high limit temperature controls found on hot water heating boilers. Reference HG-613 (a). Effective immediately the highest temperature shown on the high limit temperature controls of hot water boilers installed in 2001 should be 250° Fahrenheit. No high limit temperature controls for new hot water heating boilers should have any setting over 250° Fahrenheit. Any high limit temperature controls with any setting over 250° Fahrenheit on new hot water heating boilers installed in 2001 should be replaced to comply with HG-613(a) of ASME Code Section IV and Virginia Rules and Regulations.

Please distribute this letter to all Inspectors that perform certificate inspections in Virginia. If there are any questions from Inspectors on this memo please E-mail me at [fpb@doli.state.va.us](mailto:fpb@doli.state.va.us).

FPB/fs